

fair treatment of customers. It codifies in regulation statements and guidance from financial regulators under President Obama.

In 2014, then-Comptroller Tom Curry said to regulated banks:

You shouldn't feel that you can't bank a customer just because they fall into a category that, on its face, appears to carry an elevated level of risk. Higher risk categories of customers call for stronger risk management and controls, not a strategy of total avoidance.

Now, some critics of the OCC's rule have made the argument that it would compromise financial stability to force lenders to extend credit to dying industries, such as the fossil energy industry, that have no future under leftwing policies like the Green New Deal.

Has it ever occurred to these politicians that the reason why these fossil energy companies might face a challenging future is because of their own policies and because of their unrelenting desire to deny them the credit that they need to continue to operate.

Mr. Speaker, the debanking of certain legally operating industries is one in a series of examples of corporate leaders succumbing to the pressure of activists and far-left politicians. They have ceded the primacy of shareholders and are now letting politics drive their financing decisions.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Acting Comptroller Brooks on proposing this thoughtful and timely rule of non-discrimination. This rule will ensure that all legal American companies have full access to the robust U.S. financial system and the economic freedom they deserve, and it will put an end to the misguided practice of banks playing politics with American jobs.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my farewell remarks as a Member of the people's House. And while I will be sad to leave this historic place, I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to serve Missouri's First Congressional District for two decades and to have been blessed with the friendship of so many colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I have given my best because my constituents deserve nothing less. I learned that vital lesson about public service from my best adviser and my personal hero, my dad, former Congressman Bill Clay. The truth is none of my success would have been possible without my remarkable family.

I thank the rock of our family, my mother, Carol, and my devoted and talented sisters, Vickie and Michelle.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank my children, Carol and Will. No Member serves unto themselves. Families also sacrifice greatly.

Carol and Will, you all have made me extremely proud. You carry yourselves with such dignity, poise, and character.

There is no greater joy I have than being your father. Thank you for being my greatest and best legacy.

To my wonderful wife, Pat, I could not have selected a better partner to share in my post-congressional career. Your love and optimism keep my life balanced and exhilarated. I so look forward to our days to come.

Mr. Speaker, of course, the best part of being a Member of Congress has been helping tens of thousands of constituents solve issues with the Federal Government. None of that would have been possible without my dedicated and compassionate staff over the years: Patricia, Sheila, Virginia, Sandy, Ishmael, Jasmina, Sean, Craig, Percy, Adam, Marvin, Richard, Les, Mark, Lou, Brian, Michelle, Brittany, Josh, Pauline, Perre, Samantha, Sherry, Tony, Bill, Frank, Erica, Matt, Rico; my communications director, Steven Engelhardt; and the late Alyson Singfield and the late Dottie Ross.

I also thank an exceptional American who has devoted 48 years of public service to the U.S. House, my remarkable constituent services director, Edwilla Massey.

I thank my devoted executive assistant and scheduler, Karyn Long. Karyn is family. She always went above and beyond for me, and I am forever grateful.

I also especially thank all my chiefs of staff: Harriet Grigsby, Darryl Piggee, and Yvette Cravins.

In the book of Matthew, chapter 25, verses 36-40, the Scriptures read:

When I was naked, you clothed Me. When I was sick, you visited Me. And when I was in prison, you came to Me. The righteous answered, "Lord, when did we see You hungry, thirsty, clothed You, or in prison visited?" And the King answered them, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me."

Mr. Speaker, these Scriptures have been a guidepost for my career in public service. Over my 10 terms, I have fearlessly advocated for the permanent interest of African Americans and other unheard voices. I have had many legislative achievements in this body, and I thank all of my colleagues who assisted me in doing as the Scriptures noted, "caring for the least of these."

Mr. Speaker, in my remaining time, I highlight a few victories.

For 14 years, I hosted the Clay Career Fair at St. Louis' HBCU Harris-Stowe State University, which connected thousands of jobseekers with good-paying jobs, providing economic stability.

Creating jobs and economic development was a priority for me. We were able to build the new \$120 million National Archives administration center in North St. Louis County.

The greatest economic victory for North St. Louis was the bipartisan effort to build the headquarters of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. That \$1.7 billion project is the largest single Federal investment in St. Louis' history, of which I am extremely proud.

We have also built hundreds of units of new housing. We have also expanded organ and tissue donation registry.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the legacy and work of Missouri's First Congressional District.

May God bless you all.

IRAN—AMERICA'S GREATEST THREAT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address one of the greatest threats to American safety—Iran.

Iran is the largest state sponsor of terrorism, and from past actions, we know the regime cannot be trusted. However, over the past 4 years, progress has been made:

Our maximum pressure campaign and sanctions have reined in Iran's power;

Normalization agreements between Israel and numerous nations in the region continue to isolate Iran;

The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Sudan have embraced peace and cooperation.

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At this moment of success, the United States cannot back down. We cannot return to one-sided deals that strengthen Iran.

There is little doubt that without our efforts, Iran will continue its pursuit for a nuclear weapon and regional dominance. We must maintain pressure on the regime.

Just last month, the IAEA confirmed what we suspected all along: that the Iranian regime continues to ramp up its nuclear program. In fact, it is accelerating its efforts. This is not the time to appease the Iranian regime. We must stand strong.

Under the Obama-Biden administration, we saw years of failed foreign policy. We saw years of policy that allowed Iran to continue developing a nuclear weapon, years of policy that sent pallets of cash to Iran, years of policy that neglected our alliance with Israel, and years of policy that allowed Iranian terrorism to thrive across the region.

After the failed Obama-Biden Iran deal was implemented, Iran continued perpetuating violence, terrorism, and proxy wars across the Middle East. Iran came closer and closer to obtaining a nuclear weapon.

President Trump has shown there is another way. We do not need to appease terrorist states and turn our backs on Israel. Instead, the Trump administration's strength has helped set the conditions for regional peace. Cooperation between Israel and other Middle Eastern states is continuing to grow. This change of policy has brought hope.

Peace is possible. But peace does not happen through capitulation, and it will not happen if we go backwards.

It is clear the U.S. sanctions targeting Iran are working. We need to